

Message Text

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17

ORIGIN EUR-08

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DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:CBROWN/JL

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R 012308Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (ALBERT, CARL), RO

SUBJECT: CODEL ALBERT

REF: BUCHAREST 2902

1. IN APPROACHING ROMANIAN AUTHORITIES ON CODEL ALBERT, YOU MAY CITE VISIT AS RESPONSE TO GIOSAN'S EARLIER INVITATION. SPEAKER ALBERT ACCEPTED THIS INVITATION BY LETTER DATED JUNE 14, WHICH WAS TRANSMITTED THROUGH ROMANIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.

2. SPEAKER ALBERT IS ABSENT FROM WASHINGTON FOR NEXT WEEK OR SO, AND WE CANNOT RAISE PROPOSAL IN PARAGRAPH 2 REFTEL WITH HIM DIRECTLY. BASED ON SPEAKER'S PREVIOUS PRACTICE, HOWEVER, HIS STAFF IS SURE THAT HE WOULD PREFER TO KEEP GROUP TOGETHER THROUGHOUT VISIT. WE SUGGEST THEREFORE THAT EMBASSY RECOMMEND ONE OF THE ITINERARIES PROPOSED IN REFTEL, WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT ONE OR TWO CODEL MEMBERS MAY GET SPEAKER'S APPROVAL TO SPLIT OFF

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TO PURSUE INTERESTS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY. AS

SOON AS WE HAVE CONFIRMATION OF CODEL PARTICIPANTS, WE
WILL SEND LIST WITH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON SUBJECTS
OF SPECIFIC INTEREST.

3. WE HOPE EMBASSY CAN AVOID ANY HAGGLING OVER ROLE
AND OBLIGATIONS OF HOST. IT IS PRECISELY BECAUSE OF
PROBLEMS OF RECIPROCITY THAT WE WISH TO KEEP ROMANIAN
EXPENSES TO THE MINIMUM. AS EMBASSY KNOWS, U.S. CONGRESS
IS NOT ORGANIZED TO SERVE AS HOST FOR VISITS OF
PARLIAMENTARIANS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES. USUAL PRACTICE
HAS BEEN FOR INDIVIDUAL LEADERS OF CONGRESS TO GREET
BRIEFLY INDIVIDUAL PARLIAMENTARIANS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES,
AND ONLY RARELY HAS CONGRESSIONAL HOSPITALITY GONE
BEYOND THIS. WHILE CODEL APPRECIATES HOSPITALITY OF
ROMANIANS, IT DOES NOT WISH TO INCUR OBLIGATIONS WHICH
IT CANNOT RECIPROCATATE. SPEAKER'S OFFICE ALSO TELLS US
THAT THERE MAY BE LEGAL PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH ACCEPT-
ANCE OF HOSPITALITY AND GIFTS OF MORE THAN NOMINAL
VALUE.

4. INTERNATIONAL ITINERARY OF CODEL REMAINS AS OUT-
LINED IN STATE 130511.

INGERSOLL

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